

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

For Release JULY 11, 1957

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED ON PROPOSED UPPER SAIMON RIVER WITHDRAWAL

The Bureau of Land Management will hold a public hearing in the Senate Chamber of the Idaho Statehouse at Boise, on September 19 and 20, 1957, on a proposed withdrawal of approximately 31,000 acres of national forest lands at the headwaters of the Salmon River in Idaho, the Department of the Interior announced today. The hearing will begin at 10 a.m., local time.

According to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, who requested the withdrawal, the lands would be withdrawn from entry under the mining laws for the benefit of valuable salmon and steelhead spawning areas, including the only known spawning area for sockeye salmon in the Snake River Drainage. The lands embraced by the proposed withdrawal are located in Bear Valley and Marsh Creeks of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and Valley Creek, Redfish, Pettit, and Alturas Lakes, and the headwater reaches of the Salmon River within the Challis, Boise, Salmon, and Sawtooth National Forests.

Bureau of Land Management Director Edward Woozley said that the public hearing was being held to give local citizens and other interested persons an opportunity to hear all the facts about the proposed withdrawal and to express their opinions on it. The hearing will be conducted by the Idaho State Supervisor of the Bureau of Land Management, who will act as chairman. A complete description of the lands affected by the proposed withdrawal was published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on December 22, 1955.

The meeting will be open to anyone interested.

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